

REMARKS

The indication that claims 6/1, 6/2, 7/6/1 and 7/6/2 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and with objections above corrected, and that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, set forth in the office action, and that corresponding dependent claims would be allowable, is acknowledged.

By the present amendment, the claims have been amended in a manner which is considered to overcome the objections to the claims, as set forth by the Examiner, as well as to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Additionally, independent claims 1 and 2 have been amended to incorporate the features of objected to claim 6 therein, such that claims 1 and 2, as amended, represent claim 6/1 and claim 6/2, respectively, written in independent form, which claims have been recognized as being allowable. Furthermore, claim 3 has been amended in a manner which is considered to overcome the objection thereto as well as to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, such that independent claim 3, as amended, should also now be in condition for allowance. The dependent claims have been amended to properly depend from independent claims 1, 2 or 3, as amended, or dependent claims, noting that the objections and rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, have been overcome. Thus, applicants submit that all claims present in this application should now be in condition for allowance.

As to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Jansen et al and the rejection of claim 2, 8/1 and 8/2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being

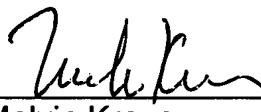
unpatentable over Jansen et al, applicants submit that such rejections have been overcome by the amendment of independent claims 1 and 2 to incorporate the features of objected to claim 6 therein so that the rejection of the dependent claims should also be overcome. Accordingly, discussion of Jansen et al is considered unnecessary at this time.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that all claims present in this application should now be in condition for allowance and issuance of an action of favorable nature is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.43330X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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